

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:DCNORTON

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TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN NIACT IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 006055 ACTION ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC
DIPLOMATIC POSTS USCINCSO 10 JAN

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: N.Y. TIMES STORY ON REACTION TO OPPOSING VOTES

IN THE U.N.

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT NOON
BRIEFING JANUARY 9:

Q: IT'S BEEN REPORTED, AS YOU KNOW, THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS ADOPTED A MUCH TOUGHER POLICY TOWARD NATIONS WHICH VOTE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AND I PRESUME IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL FORUMS -- INCLUDING THE ORGANIZATION FOR AFRICAN UNITY AND OTHERS.

THE SECRETARY, I RECALL, DID REFER IN TESTIMONY BEFORE A HOUSE COMMITTEE, OR SUBCOMMITTEE, IN NOVEMBER, I BELIEVE, TO A MUCH CLOSER MONITORING PROCESS THAT WAS BEING SET UP IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO EXAMINE VOTING PATTERNS OF NATIONS WHICH VOTED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES. WHAT IS THE
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CURRENT POLICY ON THIS?

A: I BELIEVE YOU ARE REFERRING TO A STORY BY MR. GELB IN THIS MORNING'S NEW YORK TIMES. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT OBVIOUSLY OUR ACTIONS TOWARD OTHER COUNTRIES ARE BASED ON THEIR ACTIONS TOWARDS US.

Q: IS THAT A CONFIRMATION OF THE STORY?

A: NO. IT IS A STATEMENT OF STANDARD DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE. IT IS FOLLOWED BY THIS COUNTRY AS WELL AS MOST OTHER COUNTRIES...AND AS FAR AS THE SECOND POINT, THE QUESTION OF HOW PEOPLE VOTE, OBVIOUSLY THAT IS AN ACTION. WE HAVE BEEN TAKING INTO ACCOUNT HOW DIFFERENT COUNTRIES VOTE ON ISSUES THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT IN THE UN SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

Q: WELL, THE STORY SPECIFICALLY SAYS "A POLICY OF SELECTING FOR CUTBACKS IN AMERICAN AID THOSE NATIONS THAT HAVE SIDED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES IN VOTES IN THE UNITED NATIONS."

A: I HAVE READ THE STORY, AND I THINK I WILL JUST LIMIT MY REMARK TO THE GENERAL COMMENT THAT I MADE AT THE OUT-SET.

Q: HAS A MONITORING OFFICE BEEN SET UP IN THE PAST -- IN RECENT WEEKS?

A: I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH MONITORING OFFICE.

Q: DOES THE UNITED STATES REGARD A VOTE ON THE ZIONIST RESOLUTION AS AN ACTION TOWARD US?

A: OUR VIEW ON THE ADOPTION OF THAT RESOLUTION HAS BEEN MADE VERY CLEAR ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. OBVIOUSLY, IT WAS AN ACTION BY THE UNITED NATIONS WHICH WE REGRETTED VERY MUCH AND ONE WHICH WE STRONGLY OPPOSED.

Q: HAS THE SECRETARY POSTPONED AGREEMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT TO TANZANIA AND GUYANA?...

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A: I HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED THAT WE HAVE CHANGED THE DETAILS OF THE ORIGINAL AID PACKAGE THAT WENT UP TO THE CONGRESS FOR FISCAL '76...

IT HAS NOT BEEN ADOPTED YET.

IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE THAT CHANGES ARE MADE BETWEEN THE

TIME OF PRESENTATION AND FINAL APPROVAL. IT IS UNUSUAL FOR THE CONGRESS TO APPROVE AN AID PACKAGE IN TOTAL, IN ANY CASE; IT USUALLY MAKES --

Q: IF THAT IS THE CASE, THEN THE ANSWER YOU EARLIER GAVE TO THE QUESTION ABOUT TANZANIA AND GUYANA IS NOT AN ANSWER. HAS THERE BEEN A DELAY OR NOT?

A: I AM NOT AWARE OF ANY DELAY. KISSINGER UNQTE.

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